

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAO PA 02074 111343Z
ACTION SCS-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /006 W
-----093743 120008Z /15
R 111230Z AUG 77
FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
TO AMEMBASSY LISBON
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7924

UNCLAS SAO PAULO 2074

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC (GARSON, ELI)
SUBJECT: W/W: ELI GARSON

REF: LISBON 6198

MR. & MRS. GARSON EVIDENTLY ENTERED BRAZIL IN 1974 AND RESIDED IN BELEM FOR THE MAJOR PART OF THEIR STAY HERE, FOLLOWED BY RESIDENCY IN SAO PAULO. THEY WERE FIRST REFERRED TO US AROUND MARCH 1977 BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY, FROM WHICH THEY HAD BEEN RECEIVING FULL SUPPORT SINCE THE EARLY PART OF 1977 WHEN GARSON HAD THROAT SURGERY. THEY HAD NO VISIBLE MEANS OF SELF SUPPORT EXCEPT FOR THE CHANCE SELLING OF THEIR OWN PAINTINGS, THOUGH MRS. GARSON STATED SHE HAD BEEN EMPLOYED AS A TEACHER UNTIL THE ILLNESS OF HER HUSBAND.

2. DURING SEVERAL INTERVIEWS WITH THE GARSONS MARCH-JULY 1977, THIS POST ALSO CONCLUDED THAT THEY DID NOT QUALIFY FOR REPATRIATION FUNDS. THE PRINCIPAL PROBLEM, AS IT APPEARED TO US, WAS THAT GARSON HAD NOT RESIDED IN THE US SINCE 1946 AND HAD NO REAL PURPOSE OR DESIRE TO RETURN. HE STATED THAT HE WOULD NOT RETURN TO THE US WITHOUT HIS WIFE -- AN IMPOSSIBILITY BECAUSE OF HER NON-US STATUS AND THE DESTITUTION QUESTION THAT WOULD OCCUR IN THE CASE OF IMMIGRATION.

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3. DURING THEIR LAST INTERVIEW ON JULY 14, THE GARSONS REQUESTED THAT WE APPEAL TO THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR A LUMP-SUM DONATION SO THAT THEY COULD TRAVEL TO CANADA BY THE CHEAPEST ROUTE POSSIBLE. A CONSULAR OFFICER AGREED TO DISCUSS THIS POSSIBILITY AT THE NEXT AS BOARD MEETING ON AUGUST 2. HOWEVER, ON JULY 29 WE

WERE INFORMED BY THE AS THAT THE GARSONS HAD APPEARED AT THE OFFICE OF ONE OF THEIR MEMBERS, PRESENTING TWO SHIPLINE TICKETS FOR LISBON. THEY DID NOT EXPLAIN WHERE THEY HAD OBTAINED THE FUNDS FOR THE TICKETS, BUT DID REQUEST CR\$1000 (US\$71) WHICH THEY DID RECEIVE FROM AS FUNDS.

4. A REVIEW OF THE GARSON PASSPORT ALSO INDICATED THAT THEY WERE IN BRAZIL ILLEGALLY SINCE THE EXPIRATION OF THEIR INITIAL TEMPORARY VISA ISSUED IN 1974. THEY EVIDENTLY FOUND A MEANS OF LEAVING COUNTRY AVOIDING THE SIZEABLE FINE THAT NORMALLY WOULD BE REQUIRED BY THE BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES FOR THIS TYPE OF VIOLATION.

5. WE ASSUME THAT GARSON HAS INFORMED LISBON OF HIS US MILITARY SERVICE, NATURALIZATION, LOSS AND REGAIN OF US NATIONALITY.
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